NUMB. DXLIX.

The SPECTATOR.

Quamvis digreſſu veteris confuſus amici,
Laudo tamen——— Juv.

Saturday, November 29. 1712.

I Believe moſt People begin the World with a Reſolution to withdraw from it into a ſerious kind of Solitude or Retirement, when they have made themſelves eaſie in it. Our Unhappineſs is, that we find out ſome Excuſe or other for deferring ſuch our good Reſolutions till our intended Retreat is cut off by Death. But among all kinds of People there are none who are ſo hard to part with the World, as thoſe who are grown old in the heaping up of Riches. Their Minds are ſo warped with their conſtant Attention to Gain, that it is very difficult for them to give their Souls another Bent, and convert them towards thoſe Objects, which, though they are proper for every Stage of Life, are ſo more eſpecially for the laſt. *Horace* deſcribes an old Uſurer as ſo charmed with the Pleaſures of a Country Life, that in order to make a Purchaſe he called in all his Mony; but what was the event of it? Why in a very few Days after he put it out again. I am engaged in this Series of Thought by a Diſcourſe which I had laſt Week with my worthy Friend Sir ANDREW FREEPORT, a Man of ſo much natural Eloquence, good Senſe, and Probity of Mind, that I always hear him with a particular Pleaſure. As we were ſitting together, being the ſole remaining Members of our Club, Sir ANDREW gave me an Account of the many buſie Scenes of Life in which he had been engaged, and at the ſame time reckoned up to me abundance of thoſe lucky Hits, which at another time he would have called pieces of good Fortune; but in the Temper of Mind he was then, he termed them Mercies, Favours of Providence, and Bleſſings upon an honeſt Induſtry. Now, ſays he, you muſt know, my good Friend, I am ſo uſed to conſider my ſelf as Creditor and Debtor, that I often ſtate my Accounts after the ſame manner, with regard to Heaven and my own Soul. In this caſe, when I look upon the Debtor-ſide, I find ſuch innumerable Articles, that I want Arithmetick to caſt them up; but when I look upon the Creditor-ſide, I find little more than blank Paper. Now tho' I am very well ſatisfied that it is not in my power to ballance Accounts with my Maker, I am reſolved however to turn all my future Endeavours that way. You muſt not therefore be ſurprized, my Friend, if you hear that I am betaking my ſelf to a more thoughtful kind of Life, and if I meet you no more in this Place.

I could not but approve ſo good a Reſolution, notwithſtanding the Loſs I ſhall ſuffer by it. Sir ANDREW has ſince explained himſelf to me more at large in the following Letter, which is juſt come to my Hands.

Good Mr. SPECTATOR,

'NOtwithſtanding my Friends at the Club have 'always rallied me, when I have talked of 'retiring from Buſineſs, and repeated to me one 'of my own Sayings, *that a Merchant has never 'enough till he has got a little more*, I can now 'inform you that there is one in the World who 'thinks he has enough, and is determined to paſs 'the Remainder of his Life in the Enjoyment of 'what he has. You know me ſo well, that I need 'not tell you, I mean, by the Enjoyment of my 'Poſſeſſions, the making of them uſeful to the Pub-'lick. As the greateſt Part of my Eſtate has been 'hitherto of an unſteady and volatile Nature, ei-'ther toſt upon Seas or fluctuating in Funds; it is 'now fixt and ſettled in Subſtantial Acres and Te-'nements. I have removed it from the Uncertain-'ty of Stocks, Winds and Waves, and diſpoſed 'of it in a conſiderable Purchaſe. This will give 'me great Opportunity of being charitable in my 'way, that is in ſetting my poor Neighbours to 'Work, and giving them a comfortable Subſiſt-'ence out of their own Induſtry. My Garden, my 'Fiſhponds, my Arable and Paſture Ground ſhall 'be my ſeveral Hoſpitals, or rather Work-houſes, 'in which I propoſe to maintain a great many in-'digent Perſons, who are now ſtarving in my Neigh-'bourhood. I have got a fine Spread of improve-'able Lands, and in my own Thoughts am alrea-'dy plowing up ſome of them, fencing others; 'planting Woods, and draining Marſhes. In fine, 'as I have my Share in the Surface of this Iſland, 'I am reſolved to make it as beautiful a Spot as 'any in Her Majeſty's Dominions; at leaſt there is 'not an Inch of it which ſhall not be cultivated 'to the beſt Advantage, and do its utmoſt for its 'Owner. As in my Mercantile Employment, I 'ſo diſpoſed of my Affairs, that from whatever 'Corner of the Compaſs the Wind blew, it was 'bringing home one or other of my Ships; I 'hope, as a Husband-man, to contrive it ſo, 'that not a Shower of Rain, or a Glimpſe of 'Sunſhine, ſhall fall upon my Eſtate without bet-

'tering

‘ tering ſome part of it, and contributing to the
‘ Products of the Seaſon. You know it has been
‘ hitherto my Opinion of Life, that it is thrown away
‘ when it is not ſome way uſeful to others. But
‘ when I am riding out by my ſelf, in the freſh Air on
‘ the open Heath that lies by my Houſe, I find ſe-
‘ veral other Thoughts growing up in me. I am
‘ now of Opinion, that a Man may find Buſineſs
‘ enough on himſelf, by ſetting his Mind in order,
‘ preparing it for another World, and reconciling
‘ it to the Thoughts of Death. I muſt, therefore,
‘ acquaint you, that beſides thoſe uſual Methods
‘ of Charity, of which I have before ſpoken, I am
‘ at this very Inſtant finding out a convenient Place
‘ where I may build an Alms-houſe, which I
‘ intend to endow very handſomly, for a Dozen
‘ ſuperannuated Husbandmen. It will be a great
‘ Pleaſure to me to ſay my Prayers twice a Day
‘ with Men of my own Age, who all of them, as
‘ well as my ſelf, may have their Thoughts taken
‘ up how they ſhall die, rather than how they ſhall
‘ live. I remember an excellent Saying that I learn-
‘ ed at School, *Finis coronat opus.* You know beſt
‘ whether it be in *Virgil* or in *Horace*, it is my bu-
‘ ſineſs to apply it. If your Affairs will permit you
‘ to take the Country Air with me ſometimes, you
‘ ſhall find an Apartment fitted up for you, and ſhall
‘ be every Day entertained with Beef or Mutton of
‘ my own feeding; Fiſh out of my own Ponds; and
‘ Fruit out of my own Garden. You ſhall have
‘ free Egreſs and Regreſs about my Houſe, with-
‘ out having any Queſtions asked you, and in a Word
‘ ſuch an hearty Welcome as you may expect from

Your moſt ſincere Friend

and humble Servant,

ANDREW FREEPORT.

The Club of which I am a Member being entirely diſperſed, I ſhall conſult my Reader next Week, upon a Project relating to the Inſtitution of a new one.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Never Acted but Once.

By her Majeſty's Company of Comedians.

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane this preſent Saturday being the 29th Day of November, will be preſented a new Tragedy call'd The Heroick Daughter. By Her Majeſty's Command no Perſons are to be admitted behind the Scenes.

Never Perform'd but Twice.

AT the Queen's Theatre in the Hay-Market, this preſent Saturday being the 29th Day of November, will be preſented a new Opera call'd The Faithful Shepherd. Compos'd by Mr. Handel. The Parts to be performed by Signior Cavaliero Valeriano Pallegrini, Signor Valentino Urbani, Signiora Pilotti Schiavonetti, Signiora Margaretta de l'Epine, Mrs. Barbier and Mr. Leveridge. Boxes 8 s. Pit 5 s. Gallery 2 s. 6 d. Boxes upon the Stage Half a Guinea. To begin exactly at Six a Clock. No Perſon to ſtand upon the Stage.

Notice is hereby given, that a Committee of the Commiſſioners, for Building 50 New Churches, &c. Meet every Monday, at 4 a Clock in the Afternoon, at their Chambers No. 6. in Scarles Court, in Lincolns Inn; Where all Perſons that have any thing to Offer relating to that Affair, may apply to them.

This Day is Publiſh'd, The Second Edition in 8vo of

Mr. POPE's ESSAY on CRITICISM.

——— Si quid novisti rectius iſtis,
Candidus imperti; ſi non, his utere mecum. Hor

Printed for W. Lewis, in Ruſſel-ſtreet Covent-Garden; and Sold by J. Matthew near Stationer's Hall. Price Six Pence.

‡*‡ There will be ſpeedily Publiſhed, for the Benefit of ſuches ſpeak Iriſh, the Book of Common Prayer, the Church Catechiſm ſingle, and Lewis's Expoſition thereof in Engliſh and Iriſh of each 6000. As alſo a ſhort Hiſtory of the Attempts that have been made to Convert the Popiſh Natives of Ireland to the Eſtabliſhed Religion, with a Propoſal for their Converſion, to be given to ſuch as encourage this Deſign. All by John Richardſon, Miniſter of Belturbet in Ireland. The Charge of this Work amounts to 600l. and upwards, and being carried on by Subſcription, all Subſcribers, and ſuch as have engaged, or are diſpoſed to contribute towards it, are deſired to ſend their Benefactions to the Reverend Mr. Shute, at his Houſe in Bartlet's Buildings, Holbourn, or the ſaid Mr. Richardſon next Door to Knight's Coffee houſe in Eſſex ſtreet; where they may have the Quota of Books ſubſcribed for, and others may be ſupplied with ſuch parcel of them as they think fit to diſtribute to the Ends and Purpoſes for which they were Printed.

Juſt Publiſhed,

A neat Pocket Edition of the 3d and 4th Vols. of Spectators, with an Index to the whole 4 Vols. Tatlers in 4 Vols. The Funeral, Tender Husband and Lying Lovers, Comedies written by Mr. Steele, Prior's Poems, Milton's Paradiſe Loſt, Hudibraſs, and the Chriſtian Hero, by Mr. Steele, the laſt Edition. Printed, and Sold by Owen Lloyd near the Church in the Temple. N. B. All are Printed with an Elzever Letter, and in a ſmall Pocket Volume.

On Tueſday will be Publiſh'd,

The true Faith of a Chriſtian, in a very ſhort Abridgment of Bp. Pearſon's Expoſition of the Apoſtles Creed. By Charles Lamb, M. A. Miniſter of St. Catherine Cree Church, and Lecturer of Allhallows Barkin. A Practical Expoſition of the Beatitudes. By James Gardine, M.A. Sub Dean of Lincoln. Dr. Tilly's 16 Sermons preach'd at St. Mary's Oxford. Penitential Meditations on the Lord's Prayer, the 2d Edition corrected by Mr. Trapp. Divinity and Law reconcil'd from the Saxon Records. Bp. Williams Sermons and Catechiſm. All Printed for Bernard Lintott between the two Temple Gates in Fleetſtreet; by whom is Printing an Abridgment of the Hiſtory of the Church, from the beginning of the World to this Day.

On Monday next will be Publiſh'd,

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